

**Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body**  
Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE –**  
***Governor’s Forest Health Council***

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

**March 11, 2010**  
**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
**County Supervisors Association Building**  
**1905 W. Washington Street, Suite 100**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85007**

**Minutes**

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**Meeting Objective:** To review and discuss the Statewide Assessment, to hear a prediction on the 2010 Fire Season, to learn about the Arizona Smoke Management Program, to discuss the 4-Forest Restoration Initiative, to discuss a landscape protocol for visiting other landscapes, and discuss distribution of the land use paper.

**1) Call to Order ~ 9:03a.m.**

**Members Present:**

Co-Chair Molly Pitts, Don Berry, Victoria Christiansen, Bruce Greco for Wally Covington, Steve Gatewood, Larry Stephenson, Tom Klabunde, Paul Summerfelt for Mayor Presler, Rob Smith, Ron Williams

**Members Present via Teleconference Call:**

Co-Chair Ethan Aumack

**Members Absent:**

Brenda Burman, Rob Davis, Don Falk, Mark Herrington, John Metzger, Michael Neal, Steve Rosenstock, Todd Schulke, Darrell Willis

**Staff:**

Krista Olson-Blundell

**2) Approval of the Minutes from the February FHC meeting~ General**

- Minutes approved w/ modifications to section #5 made per Rob S.
- Minutes posted to website with modifications.

**3) Summary of Council business since last FHC meeting~ Ethan Aumack & Molly Pitts**

- Nothing to report.

#### 4) State Forestry Division

- **Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy Project Status ~ Steve Gatewood & Glen Buettner**
  - New table of contents being drafted
  - Continued request for Council input & participation
  - Emailed & passed around 2<sup>nd</sup> draft copy for review
  - Still adding & gaining data
  - Need to also review Statewide Strategy to incorporate
- Proposed Outline provided summarized:
  - Assessment Document Final Draft proposed due date of 3/31/10
  - Strategy Document Period
  - Final Document
- Key Questions for Arizona Land Management Organizations – used in obtaining input.
  - 1.) Identified Issues: Has your organization done work to identify important forest resource issues?
  - 2.) Identified Strategies: Has your organization identified strategies or recommendations for addressing important forest resource issues?
  - 3.) For each of the Critical Arizona Forest Issues (six being considered), please provide feedback using identified questions.
  - 4.) Other Important Issues?
- A tribal workshop was held in Pinetop on February 18th:
  - ✓ The cultural importance of forest resources was acknowledged as a key issue. The team will continue to reach out to tribes to gather more information, to frame this issue, and to identify opportunities.
  - ✓ It was suggested that tribal entities should be invited to meetings when the FHC is visiting particular landscapes.
  - ✓ Because data on tribal lands is limited, strategic focus areas may initially be broad and will require refinement over time.
- Larry Stephenson asked about the implications that state “priority areas” would have on the award of grants. Vicki Christiansen described the new strategy as showing that we (Arizona) has a roadmap to follow but it will not have exact detail. There will be flexibility.
- There are other assessment and collaborative processes being developed by other agencies. Several of these will include portions of Arizona: BLM is working on multiple Ecosystem Assessments driven by renewable energy &

climate change, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service is developing Landscape Conservation Cooperatives.

- **General**

- National Cohesive Wildfire Strategy was called for in the FLAME Act of 2009
  - New Wildland Fire Leadership Council to give direction on the Cohesive Strategy, meeting 4/16 & 4/17
  - Western Governor's Association (WGA) will have seat on the Wildland Fire Leadership Council, Vicki is representing State Foresters
  - Governor Brewer is sending a letter to WGA regarding actionable items to advance landscape scale restoration, one of the foundational elements of the Cohesive Strategy

- **2010 Fire Season & General ~ Vicki Christiansen**

- Lots of rain> Green>Brown
- Could be very active fire season, very significant fear
- Funding levels very concerning
- More discussion at May council meeting, will know by then weather patterns

**5) Arizona Smoke Management Program ~ Ron Sherron**

- Mr. Sherron gave a presentation on the Arizona Smoke Management Program it can be viewed at <http://www.azgovernor.gov/fhc/Presentations.asp>

**6) Update Regarding 4-Forest Restoration Initiative~ 4FRI Participants**

- Working groups continuing and are being productive
- All day session scheduled for 3/12 for changes to path forward document
- Will review latest draft of MOU between Forest Service & Collaborative Stake Holder groups
- Science & Monitoring group is working on developing FLRA proposal as to how science integrates into 4FRI.
- Steering committee established
  - Working with new facilitator
  - Mechanical process in moving 4FRI forward

**7) Discussion regarding Distribution/Outreach Regarding "Living with Fire" Paper ~ Ethan Aumack**

- Working with Jean Palumbo to carry through final phase
- Printing covered for about 200 copies
- Other forms of distribution to be discussed/Ethan to outline strategy/audience is fairly broad- ideas noted
  - Post on Website
  - Email
  - Copies in County Supervisors Building--- Larry S. to handle

- Merge document w/Ron Williams' document. Ethan will send Ron a copy
- Presentation at Albuquerque, NM Conference
- Abstract from document articles for publishing
- Send Exec. Summary w/ cover letter
- Press Release
- Ethan, Don, Molly and Vicki to work on cover letter for distribution w/document

**8) Discussion Regarding City of Flagstaff's Wildland Fire Program~ *Ethan Aumack***

- Considering cutting budget by 80%
- Reduce 4 FTE to 1 FTE
- Concerned about cuts
- Question posed to council can they voice support for this program?
- General consensus, cannot respond as a Council as a whole

**9) Meeting Schedule and Locations | Other Business ~**

- April – No Meeting
  - May 13, 2010 – County Supervisors Association Building (Phoenix)
  - June 10, 2010- Pinetop- Full Day- Molly & Don to coordinate
  - July 8, 2010- Flagstaff
  - August- No Meeting
- Discussed Nomination for CFLRAC- Ethan A. has submitted his application himself, the council has agreed to support his nomination-- if no other members are interested.

**10) Call to Public~ *No Comment***

**11) Meeting Adjourned~ 11:45a.m.**

*Dated this April 10, 2010*  
*Governor's Forest Health Council*  
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

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**CO-CHAIRS**

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust

Molly Pitts – Northern Arizona Wood Products Association